

CLAIMS

1. A pneumatic tire, comprising:

5 circumferential grooves disposed along a circumferential direction of a tread; and

10 land portions divided by the circumferential grooves, wherein positions of groove deepest portions in the circumferential grooves vary in a predetermined cycle along the circumferential direction in a width direction of the tread within the circumferential grooves; and

15 depth direction positions, where a groove bottom surface of the circumferential groove contacts with each of perpendicular lines which are perpendicular or approximately perpendicular to a tread surface and which pass respectively through edges of the land portions on a side of each of the circumferential grooves, as well as 20 angles, which are formed by the perpendicular lines and a section line of a cross-section of the groove bottom surface in the width direction of the tread surface with a vertex in the depth direction positions, vary in the predetermined cycle along the circumferential direction.

25

2. The pneumatic tire of claim 1 characterized in that when a maximum groove cross-sectional area S is defined as an area of a rectangle formed by each of the edges of the land portions

on the side of the circumferential groove and by points where
the perpendicular lines, which are perpendicular or
approximately perpendicular to the tread surface and which
pass through the edges, intersect perpendicularly with a
5 line which is parallel to the tread surface and tangent to
the groove deepest portion, an effective groove
cross-sectional area S' corresponding to a portion forming
the circumferential groove along the entire circumferential
direction satisfies $S' \geq 0.45S$ in the maximum groove
10 cross-sectional area S .